



ALEXANDRIA, VA.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1872.

The intelligent and generally well informed Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says: "The friends of Greeley and Brown have received sufficient advice here to warrant them in claiming 263 of the 270 delegates who have thus far been elected to the Baltimore Convention. This computation includes Wisconsin, whose State convention was held yesterday. Of the seven delegates opposed to him one comes from West Virginia and six from Delaware. The New Jersey delegation is expected to be against Greeley, and possibly that from Oregon. The principal States yet to elect are Nebraska, Kentucky, Illinois, Ohio, Maryland and Alabama, and it is claimed that they will all send delegations for the endorsement of the Cincinnati ticket. Of the 732 delegates to the national convention, it is not believed now that there will be at the furthest more than seventy-five opposed to it."

In the British House of Commons, yesterday, Mr. Gladstone stated that no communication had passed between the Commissioners and the English Government, showing that the exclusion of indirect claims rested on an understanding. Mr. Gladstone further stated that the postponement of the Board of Arbitration would not affect the Treaty, but the defeat of one of its provisions might, as when one of the wheels of a carriage failed all failed. Nearly all of the members of the Geneva Board of Arbitration have arrived at Geneva, and it is thought that an adjournment will be had immediately after the organization is completed. It is also supposed that the session will be secret.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, says:—"As the habeas corpus clause of the Ku-Klux law was not extended, and as no pretext exists for sending United States troops into the Southern States, the War Department now orders all available men to the plains, to prevent, if possible, an Indian outbreak this season. Many of the regiments now on the frontier are far from complete, and all recruits are used to fill these regiments to the required standard. Nearly every day a hundred or more recruits are ordered to the plains, those ordered West-to-day going to the sixth regiment, now in Dakota."

We are glad to see that the Baltimore Gazette shows every disposition to conciliate, and not to be "impracticable in the presidential contest. It says it "will cordially support any combination of opposing forces that will offer a reasonable prospect of beating Grant; because to beat Grant is to trample out 'Grantism,' and in that one word is comprehended a dangerous Executive, a corrupt Administration, a corrupt majority in Congress, a corrupt press, and official mercenaries, a subsidized press, and the practice of all those base arts that delude and demoralize a people."

It is now said that negotiations with foreign bankers and capitalists relative to the action of the Treasury Department in its foreign negotiations for bonds have not yet been ended, as many persons supposed, because of the uncertain condition of the Treaty. The Secretary of the Treasury has not made known his decision in the premises, but it is possible that he will be guided by circumstances, and in the meantime the bonds will be negotiated as formerly.

The Washington Patriot says that dissatisfaction is expressed by the fortunate Southern claimants because the Third Auditor must first audit their claim before the Secretary of the Treasury is willing to pay the amount appropriated. The reason alleged for this course by the Treasury Department is that the Government must protect itself against the presentation of the same claim hereafter, and must hold the papers as vouchers.

The "circular" addressed to a number of persons asking for a Conference of those "opposed to the present administration, and of uniting all the elements of the opposition in a common effort at the coming presidential election, to be held in New York, on the 29th inst., is signed by Carl Schurz, Jacob D. Cox, Wm. Cullen Bryant, Oswald P. Ottendorfer, David A. Wells, and Jacob Brinkerhoff.

One of the manufacturing resources of the Upper Potomac, near the Chain Bridge, is now being extensively developed by Messrs. Fowler & Yarwood, of Georgetown, in the excavation of an extensive quarry owned by these gentlemen. On an average 200 tons of building and rubble stone are daily brought to Georgetown and Washington from their quarries.

The Liberal State Committee, of Missouri, held a meeting yesterday, at which the subject of holding a State Convention was discussed. It was decided not to call one until after the Baltimore Convention. Senator Schurz and Gov. Brown were present. Both made speeches, in which they advised a conciliatory course towards Democrats.

All the indications are favorable to an energetic and united opposition to the re-election of Gen. Grant, and a continuance of the present Administration policy, by those who wish to see a Reform in the Administration of the government, and a change in men and measures.

Mr. E. A. Pollard, residing in Lynchburg, is actively engaged in writing articles in favor of Mr. Greeley and the Cincinnati platform. Many of these, which have appeared in the Lynchburg Republican, have been collected and published in pamphlet form.

The one hundred and twenty-fifth annual commencement of the College of New Jersey, at Princeton, occurs on Wednesday, June 26.

The Albany, N. Y., Times announces that Dexter Reynolds, a prominent member of the Albany bar, has invented a type-setting machine, which, having been pronounced a complete success by type foundries in Boston, New York and Philadelphia, has been sold for \$1,000,000 to a combination of New York capitalists. We have heard of these type-setting machines for many years past—a new one being produced every now and then—but so far the promise has always exceeded the reality—and none of them, so far, have ever come into general use. This one is said to do the work, in one hour, of four good hands, which we do not believe is practicable.

Judge Wellford, of the Richmond Circuit Court, yesterday, delivered his opinion in the Murphy habeas corpus case, heretofore mentioned. He holds that the commutation of sentence by Gov. Walker, though invalid as such, operates as an absolute pardon, and that Lawrence Murphy is entitled to his freedom. The Commonwealth's Attorney gave notice that he would appeal the case. Murphy was admitted to bail in the sum of \$1,000, to await further action.

What is called the "Right" in the French Legislative Assembly, have resolved to demand the removal of some of the Ministers, and compel Thiers to carry on the Administration in accordance with the views of the majority. To this Thiers objects, but favors the appointment of a Vice President.

The Liberal Republican Convention of West Virginia, has nominated a "straight out" Greeley electoral ticket. There were no nominations for State officers made, but the executive committee is to issue a call for a State convention for that purpose.

An extensive fire at Lisbon, Portugal, on Thursday, caused a heavy loss. The Custom House and Exchange narrowly escaped destruction.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

"To show the very age and body of the Times"

New York city has a poisoning case. The inmates of a fashionable boarding house, thirty-seven in number, were suddenly taken ill and showed the symptoms of poisoning. As yet none have died. There was a large dish of frozen custard on the table, of which four of the boarders did not partake—two of them did not like it, and it was all eaten up before the other two got any—and those four were not taken sick.

The Pennsylvania State Temperance Convention assembled at Altoona yesterday and adopted a platform in which the suppression by law of traffic in liquor is asked for. It also recognizes the duty of protecting American industry, favors the right of suffrage to women, and equality of labor with capital. A full Temperance State ticket was nominated.

At a session yesterday of the Young Men's Christian Convention in Lowell, Mass., considerable excitement was occasioned by the introduction of a resolution deprecating all attempts to exclude the Bible from the public schools of this nation, &c., &c. The resolution was finally adopted.

The War Department is in receipt of dispatches from officers on the frontier to the effect that buffaloes are being killed in large numbers for the sake of their hides, which has been found to make very good leather. The destruction of these animals, it is feared, will involve trouble with the Indians.

Two thousand machinists, moulders, and boiler makers of New York struck yesterday for eight hours, but for no reduction of pay. The result of the strike has been that one firm has forwarded an order to Scotland for the construction of fifty small steam engines instead of giving the order in New York.

Marguerite Dixblanc, the French servant girl who murdered her mistress in England has been convicted, after a long and exciting trial. The verdict of the jury was accompanied with a recommendation to mercy, on the ground that the crime was unpremeditated.

The friends of Mr. Voorhees claim that he was not legitimately defeated as a district delegate to the Baltimore Convention, his name being used in the Indiana Convention without his sanction.

The Canadian Parliament was finally adjourned yesterday, and in his closing speech the Governor General expressed the hope that the good understanding between Canada and England would last for generations.

Judge Curtis, of New York, has decided that Carl Vogt cannot under the law be surrendered to the Belgian authorities, but that he can be remanded for trial on the charge of carrying stolen property into the State.

The many friends and admirers of Mr. Jefferson, the celebrated actor, will be relieved to know that the surgical operation to which he on Thursday submitted, in New York, to save his eyes, was completely successful.

The act of Congress will go into immediate effect allowing banks to deposit U. S. currency and take out certificates of deposit which may be held as part of their bank reserve required by law and used at clearing houses.

In New York on Thursday night there was a heavy rain, and yesterday at an early hour the inhabitants were surprised to find the streets and sidewalks covered with a deposit of yellow sulphur!!

A hail storm passed over Eastern Connecticut yesterday afternoon, covering a belt twenty miles wide, greatly damaging vegetation.

Miss Pye has opened a home for deserted girls in England, and will send a certain number thence regularly to Canada.

DOLLY VARDEN VS. THE JAPANESE TROUPE. The rather novel exhibition of a lot of Japanese engaged in a game of base ball was witnessed yesterday afternoon on the Newington Grounds. The first idea was to have a nine composed of players whose greatest virtue would be a total ignorance of the game, but instead of that a nine was made up of amateur players, most of whom, however, were a little out of practice, but still sufficiently proficient to win a game at any time from such opponents. The amusing feature of the exhibition was the base running of the Japs and the gravity with which they would go for a ball, spit on their hands, and then miss it. The native players were attired in "Dolly Varden" shirts but six innings were played, the score standing 32 to 21 in favor of the Dollys. Mr. Chas. A. Hadel acted as umpire in the most impartial manner.—Balt. Amer.

THE OLD DOMINION GOLD MINE, in Spotsylvania county, twenty-five miles from Fredericksburg, has recently been improved at an outlay of \$20,000, in new buildings, sinking four shafts, a hundred feet each in depth, &c. The ore recently struck will average \$15 per ton. By August 1st, operations will begin.—Forty hands are now employed.

The Whitehall Mine is also at work. We get these encouraging facts from an old miner.—Fredericksburg News.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

The trial of Phil. Phillips, indicted in the Rockingham County Court for highway robbery, was concluded on Friday morning. The jury rendered a verdict of guilty and fixed the term of his imprisonment in the penitentiary at five years.

Bankrupt sales were going on all day Monday at Bowling Green. Eight hundred acres of land, with a good house, brought \$1,800. In the limits of the corporation, an acre of ground, with the Odd Fellows' Hall on it, brought \$550.

There was a very serious land slide on the Lynchburg and Danville railroad, on Thursday, at the section near Fishing creek, one mile below Lynchburg. No one was injured—though many had a narrow escape.

The Page county Courier says that Mr. Strickler, of that county, entered upon harvesting on the 8th inst., and that more wheat will be made in the county than was expected.

The Culpeper Observer says:—"Our farmers have commenced their harvest. Although there will be a short crop, the quality of the grain is excellent."

The newspapers from several sections of the State begin to give a more favorable account of the prospects about wheat, than heretofore.

The wheat in Rappahannock county has improved in appearance lately. The oat crop is a failure. Corn is looking better.

At White Post, Clarke county, there is only one pump going to supply water, and the inhabitants are put upon a "per diem allowance."

The Piedmont Virginian (Orange county) says:—"We hear that the oat and grass crops will be almost an entire failure in this county."

The yield of wheat in Orange county will be an average one.

The Piedmont Virginian, an excellent paper, has a new and handsome suit of type.

FAIRFAX COUNTY.—[From the Fairfax News].—The county court of this county commences on Monday next, and will no doubt be largely attended.

There will be a meeting of the Conservative party of this county at Fairfax C. H., on Monday next, (court day) for the purpose of appointing delegates to the State Convention, to assemble in Richmond on the 27th of June.

We have had several fine showers of rain lately which has caused growing crops to improve very much in appearance.

The ladies will hold a festival during the term of the County Court, commencing on Monday, for the benefit of the M. E. Church. One of our citizens engaged extensively in the milk business, received not long since, the sum of 62 cents for 50 gallons of milk. The milk soured before it reached Washington.

The annual ice cream and strawberry festival of Providence Lodge I. O. of G. T. on Tuesday evening was one of the most pleasant affairs of the season.

Mrs. S. M. Jackson who removed with her family to Washington last Spring, has returned, and is now occupying her beautiful home in this village.

Mr. R. R. Farr is now engaged in the manufacture of one hundred and fifty thousand brick, at his yard about half a mile from the village. A portion of these brick are intended for the new Masonic hall, to be erected here.

THE LAND SCHEME OF THE O. A. & M. COMPANY.—A letter from a very observing gentleman expresses the opinion that Mr. Barbour's scheme of buying lands along the line of his road for settlers, is the wisest, and most promising that has been suggested for augmenting the population and capital of the State. We do not see how it can fail to effect great good, if the land-owners are not blind to their own interest. By selling a portion of their lands, they will enhance the value of the remainder, rid themselves of debt and acquire the means for the profitable cultivation of what is left. The increase of population and of production will increase the receipts of the railroad and at the same time augment the taxable value, which will ensure to the benefit of the public treasury. We are glad to hear that Mr. Barbour has made extensive purchases of very valuable lands in Nelson and Amherst counties, and that he is in condition to offer and is now or soon will be in condition to offer to immigrants. Both the great inducements to the Manassas branch traverse the most delightful districts in the State. The region is healthy and beautiful; the lands are fertile, finally adapted to wheat and grass, and every variety of fruit. The whole Southern slope of the Blue Ridge is believed by those who have turned their attention to the subject, better suited to the vine than any other district on the continent, and we know, that for the apple, it is unequalled.—Richmond Whig.

DECISION OF THE COURT OF APPEALS ON THE HOMESTEAD.—From the subjoined special telegram to the News, it will be seen that the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia, in session at Wytheville on yesterday, unanimously decided the Homestead clause in the Underwood Constitution, so far as the same relates to debts contracted prior to the adoption of said constitution, in violation of the Constitution of the United States, and therefore void. We annex the dispatch, and will publish the decision of the Court in full as soon as a copy of it can be obtained.

WYTHEVILLE, June 13 1872. Editor News:—The cases involving the constitutionality of Section 1, Article XI of the present Constitution of Virginia, were decided today in the Supreme Court of Appeals. The Court held that so much of said Section as relates to antecedent debts is in violation of the Constitution of the United States, and is therefore null and void.

The opinion of the Court was delivered by Judge Christian, all the Judges concurring.—Lynch. News.

FALL OF A SONNAMBULIST.—On Wednesday night last, Mr. R. S. Patterson, an old and greatly esteemed citizen of Rockbridge county, who was stopping at the Central Hotel, corner of Bridge and Jefferson streets, retired to his room at the usual hour, but about 2 o'clock in the night he dreamed that he was at his home in Rockbridge, and that the time to get up had arrived. He accordingly rose from his bed, and went through a window, eighteen feet from the ground, falling on his knees upon the sidewalk of Jefferson street.

The night clerk in the hotel heard him fall, and at once hastened to his assistance. Dr. W. Otway Owen was promptly summoned, and an examination developed the fact that the left knee was very badly broken, but that no other serious damage had been done.

The physician expects to restore him, but his knee will necessarily be well nigh useless. Mr. Patterson has every attention that could be desired, and will not wait for friends during his confinement.—Lynch. Rep.

THE WHEAT CROP, in this part of the Valley, promises better than it did a few weeks ago. In many localities it is standing very thin upon the ground, but in others it stands as thick and looks as well as we have ever seen it.

The grumblers declare that there is adequate reason to expect starvation; but our judgment and belief is, from careful observation, that nobody will starve this year, in this great granary of the South, because of diminished crops of wheat.—Rockingham Register.

Circulars are about to be issued to all money-order post offices modifying the regulations in relation to the issuing of money orders. By the revised code the fee for a money order for ten dollars or less will be five cents; on other sums the charge will be as heretofore.

Letter from New York.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

NEW YORK, June 12.—Presuming that some of your readers have never visited New York, the metropolitan city of the U. S., the great centre of commercial enterprise, and that there are others who have not been here for many years, and therefore have but little idea of the great expansion of the place since their last visit, I have thought a condensed account of the past, present and future of this great city would be interesting to them. So I concluded to give you this brief history which I have collected from an old citizen. In the year 1609, Henry Hudson, from whom the Hudson river takes its name, entered the Bay of New York in a ship owned by the Dutch East India Company, on a voyage of discovery. Up to this time the Indians had held undisputed sway. The natives are described by Heckwelder, the Indian historian, as being greatly perplexed and terrified when they saw the approach of the strange object, the ship, and thought it a visit from the Manitou coming to his big canoe and began to prepare an entertainment for him. They were very shy at first, but were made gay and happy by strong drink and presents, and finally accepted a proposition from the whites, that they would stay if they would allow them as much land for cultivation, as the hide of a bullock could encompass. The request was acceded to; the pale man began cutting the hide in one long narrow strip, around and around to the centre, and when completed, had sufficient to encompass a large piece of ground. This piece of cunning very much amused the simple Indians, who willingly allowed the success of their artifice, and gave them a cordial welcome. Such was the origin of the site of New York, or the place called Manhattan, in Indian, meaning the place where they all got drunk. Hudson continued his trip up the Hudson as far as the present site of Albany, then returned to Manhattan and at once set sail for Europe. His favorable report started another expedition of two ships in 1614, commanded by Captains Adrian Block and Hendrick Christiaens. It was under their auspices that the first actual settlers began on the site of the present New York; the first year four houses and the next a redoubt on the site of the Bowling Green. To this small village they gave the name of New Amsterdam. It continued in the possession of the Dutch until 1664, when it was taken from them by the English, and afterwards recovered in 1673. About one year after it was again ceded to the British, and at this time the name was changed from New Amsterdam to New York, in honor of James, the Duke of York. From this period it began to make, although slowly, in buildings and population. In 1656 it was laid out in streets, without much uniformity, judging from the present crooked condition of the old part of the city; it then had 120 houses with extensive garden lots and 1,000 inhabitants. In 1677 another estimate reports 368 houses. In 1725 the first newspaper made its appearance; in 1726 a public library was donated by England of 1,642 volumes; in 1732 the first public classical academy was founded, and from this time the trade of New York increased, and her ships were seen in many foreign ports. In 1750, 286 vessels left New York with cargoes of flour, grain, linseed oil, furs, lumber and iron. In 1776, 28th June, the British army and fleet, having been driven from Boston, entered the bay of New York and soon after the battle of Long Island ensued, in which the Americans were defeated, and for 8 years after this New York was the headquarters of British troops, and the prison of American captives. In 1776 a fire destroyed both sides of Broadway, and one eighth of the buildings of the city. In 10 years after the war and the declaration of Independence New York doubled its inhabitants, although checked during the ten years by the scourge of yellow fever, and from calamitous fires. The first established line of packets to Europe originated with New York. In 1825 the great Erie canal was completed, which gave a large increase of trade to the city. The union of the waters of Lake Erie with that of the Atlantic was heralded by the firing of canon along the whole line of the canal and the Hudson, and a grand procession in the city. For many years nothing occurred to mar the prosperity of the city until 1832, the Asiatic cholera appeared and 4,300 persons fell victims to the disease. Three years after this the great fire occurred. The writer was an eye witness to this great disaster; it was my first visit to this city. In one night more than 600 buildings and \$20,000,000 of property was destroyed. The city had not recovered from the effects of the fire, when the commercial revulsion of 1836 and 1837 shook public and private credit to their centre, and involved many of the leading houses of the city in bankruptcy. In 1845 another large fire gave a temporary check to the progress of the city and destroyed property to the amount of \$9,000,000. Such is a short sketch of the past history of New York from its origin to 1845. In my next I will speak of the present condition and the future prospects.

Yours, VIRGINIAN.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.—Saturday, June 22.—Meeting of the Board of Visitors.

Sunday, June 23d, 11 a. m.—Sermon by Rev. B. M. Palmer, D. D., of New Orleans; 7 p. m., anniversary of the Young Men's Christian Association, sermon by Rev. J. C. Granberry, D. D., of Richmond.

Monday, June 24th, 8 p. m.—Final celebration of the Washington Society.

Tuesday, June 25th, 10 a. m.—Meeting of Alumni Association; 8 p. m., final celebration of the Jefferson Society.

Wednesday, June 26th, 8 p. m.—Address before two literary societies by Mr. A. G. Thurman, of Ohio.

Thursday, June 27th, final day, 10 a. m.—Delivery of diplomas and certificates; 1 p. m., address before the Society of Alumni, by Gen. W. A. Quarles, of Tennessee; 5 p. m. alumni dinner.

COL. CLAFLIN.—On Thursday night last, Miss Jennie C. Claflin was triumphantly elected Colonel of the Eighty-Fifth Regiment, New York Volunteers. The regiment is entirely composed of American citizens of African descent, and this prompt recognition of the rights of the much abused sex by their colored brethren, must be extremely gratifying to the advocates of the cause of female equality. It will be a noble sight to see the new Colonel, dressed in shining regiments, marching along Broadway at the head of the column, and receiving the plaudits of her gallant admirers. In the language of the historian of John Gilpin's famous ride, "May we be there to see!"—Balt. Gazette.

THE DROUGHT.—The occasional showers of rain, which we have had in this section of country within the past few weeks, have tended greatly to improve the growing crops. While this is true, there is a great need for more rain, and the grass crops particularly are suffering for want of it. The streams that are mostly supplied by springs are nearly all dried up, and cattle, also, suffer for the want of water in many parts of the county. We have heard much complaint about the wheat and oat crops of the county, which promise but a poor yield.—Port Tobacco Times.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY.—The commencement exercises of this institution will take place as follows: Baccalaureate sermon, 23d instant; final celebration of the literary societies, 25th instant; annual meeting of the alumni association, 25th instant; stated meeting of the board of trustees, 25th instant; annual address before the alumni association, 25th instant; commencement day—closing exercises of the session, address before the literary societies, 27th instant.

The work on the new railroad depot at Front Royal, is going on actively.

THE WASHINGTON, CINCINNATI & ST. LOUIS RAILROAD COMPANY.—We have only time, just as we are going to press, to announce that the Washington, Cincinnati & St. Louis (narrow gauge) railroad company was organized to-day, June 13, 1872, at the Court House in the town of Luray, by the election of our townsmen, Hon. P. B. Bost, as the President of the Company, and the Hon. John E. Lewis, (Hon. S. Senator), B. F. Grayson, Sr., Esq., (Hon. J. M. Sieg, A. Broadus, Esq., T. M. Almond, Esq., and Hon. P. B. Bost, as the Board of Directors.

This road is to run from Washington city, in the District of Columbia, by the most practicable route through Virginia and W. Virginia, thence westward to St. Louis.

A charter for this road was obtained from the Legislature of Virginia, at its last session and soon similar grants will be obtained for its passage through the other States, along its contemplated route. This road through the two Virginias will traverse one of the grandest agricultural, iron and coal regions on this continent, and westward to the great and growing metropolis of the Mississippi Valley, St. Louis, pass through rich and powerful States, containing the "Queen City," Cincinnati, and many other cities and towns of wealth, and a country abounding in immense resources of every kind. Page County Courier.

EXECUTION OF FRENCH COMMUNISTS.—Again the plain of Satory has been moistened with the blood of executed Communists, not one, but three being this time required at the sacrificial altar of law. These were Lerizier and Boim, Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel in the Communist army, who had tortured and killed the very priests who were shivering the dying of both sides, and Boudin, who shot down a chemist in the Rue Richelieu because he protested against his son; a mere lad, being impressed into working at a barricade. Like those who had perished in the same place before the trio maintained a dogged stoicism, and though informed of the certainty and immediateness of their doom, only when the ambulances called at their cells to convey them to the fatal field, they were calmer than their executioners. They had all eaten and drunken, and Lerizier had asked for a pipe of tobacco for the last time. In driving along he confessed to a Dominican, a priest of the very order against which he had shown such hatred. "They walked quickly and firmly to their places, and uttered the Communists' profession of faith, 'Vive la Commune.'" All three were smoking, but Lerizier threw away his pipe; Boim kept his clasp in his hand, but Boudin was smoking as he fell. The execution was slowly and awkwardly accomplished.

"A PECULIAR" INSECT.—Mr. Pugh, of this county, handed us a very strange looking bug a few days ago. In appearance it is like an ordinary beetle, and is remarkable in its proceedings after its death. It never dies on top of the ground, but burrows down an inch or two, and "pulls the hole in after it;" then in a few days it sprouts and comes up like corn. After growing two or three inches, a beautiful flower comes out on the end of each of the two or three sprouts. These flowers are of the most delicate character, and their odor is not unlike that of the calceolanthus or sweet-shrub. In appearance they are somewhat like the cape jasmine, except that the petals are of that rich velvety kind found on the heart's ease. These flowers are of very short duration, living only about twelve hours. In two or four hours more the whole thing is decayed.

This is a strange story, and one which we should never have printed but for having seen the thing itself, and Mr. Pugh, who lives near Batesville, will show any curious person about a half acre of new ground land that is covered with these bugs.—Charlottesville Chronicle.

PROSPECTS FOR CROPS.—The old aphorism that "man was made to mourn" might, we think, with much truth and appropriateness, be changed to "man was made to croak." We have been in this world for these many days, and though we cannot boast of much wisdom, we have gathered some little from our experience, and we have come to the conclusion that there has never yet been a seasonable year. Never in the memory of man, we venture to say, has there been a year or a season that was exactly suitable. These reflections were forced upon us by hearing some of our farmers predicting actual starvation. We examined the wheat crop and are happy to say that our most sanguine expectations were more than realized. The straw is short, but never do we remember to have seen the heads better filled, and there will be at least a very fair average crop raised. That the grass is gone is a foregone conclusion; but corn is in its infancy, and what it will be yet to be seen.—Warren Sentinel.

TARDY JUSTICE.—William Talbert, Esq., of Spalding's District, Md., some years since prepared a plan for raising large vessels, steamers, &c., upon the docks by the application of hydraulic pressure, which he submitted to the authorities at the Washington Navy Yard, where he was then engaged as a master carpenter, and its advantages being appreciated, it was adopted by the Navy Department and has since been applied in the Government Navy Yards throughout the country. But although the Government was thereby saved immense sums of money, the Secretary of the Navy refused to pay Mr. Talbert for his invention, and he was therefore forced to appeal to Congress for relief. We learn from a gentleman of Washington that before its adjournment, Congress enacted the necessary law, and that Mr. Talbert will now shortly receive the handsome sum of \$175,000, which sum will give our readers some idea of Mr. Talbert's invention.—Prince Geo.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.—The Democratic convention of the District of Columbia, last night elected Richard T. Merrick and William Dickson delegates to the Baltimore convention; W. D. Cassin and B. T. Swartz, alternates. The delegates were not instructed, the committee on resolutions failing to report all the resolutions introduced.

Yesterday, Henry N. Ober, a prominent citizen of the eastern section of the city, died from small-pox. He was employed as a draughtsman in the War Department, and was greatly respected by all who knew him.

There are but few strangers in town, and nearly all the members of Congress have left for their homes. Only two Cabinet officers are at their posts.

Twenty-five employees have been discharged from the bureau of printing. A large number of clerks will be discharged from the census office on the 1st of July.

[COMMUNICATED.]

GRAMMAR.—On yesterday a paragraph appeared over the signature of "Citizens," which elicits an interest of a two-fold character, viz: Its grammar and its prescience. It says, "It is very much desired by the public that the writers on the subject of the fire department would cease for the present." Would is the preterit of will, and used in the above connection, indicates such an intimate knowledge of grammar, that More Anon would hesitate to discuss any intelligent principle within the hearing of "Citizens." And "It is quite probable that there will be enough of this matter ventilated before the next Council, especially in the Board of Aldermen, if that body does not speedily put an end to the matter." This is the prescience of the affair, and is what the Bible proclaims to be, answering questions before they are asked; and "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination." Specifications are possessed in abundance, and when the time arrives, will be produced by MORE ANON.

COMMERCIAL.

ALEXANDRIA MARKET, June 15.—The market for wheat is inactive; offerings light, consisting of 21 bushels red; no sales reported. Corn is quiet and unchanged; offerings of 80 bushels mixed and 174 yellow, with sales of the former at 82. Oats are quiet; offerings of 30 bushels; no sales reported. Rye is nominally 50a100. Eggs are 1c lower. Butter is unchanged.

GEORGETOWN MARKET.—The Grain receipts yesterday were 750 bushels of Wheat and 2500 bushels of Corn, via canal. The Wheat sold at 21s, and the Corn at 82 for white, and 73 for yellow.

PORT OF ALEXANDRIA, JUNE 15.
Sun rose..... 4:34 Moon sets..... 1:40
Sun sets..... 7:27

ARRIVED.
Steamer Georganna, Fields, Baltimore, to Hoce & Johnston.
Steamer Lady of the Lake, Norfolk, to F A Reed.

SAILED.
Steamer G H Stout, Philadelphia, by F A Reed.
Steamer Express, Nickle, Baltimore, by J Brothers & Co.
Schr Lydia A Hughlett, Havre-de-Grace, by W A Smoot.
Schr H A Hoyt, Cranmer, Hoboken, by J P Agnew.

Schr Maria Pierson, Jersey City, by American Coal Co.
Schr Mary E Coyne, New Bedford, by Hampshire & Baltimore Coal Co.

MEMORANDA.
Schr J W Hine, Lane, for New Haven, hence, at New York 13th.

Schr M E Collins, Huntingdon, for Port Morris, hence, at New York 12th.
Schr H J Raymond, Cranmer, hence, at New York 13th.

Schr Chas Morford, Parsons, hence, at Providence 12th.
Schr Lookout, from Boston for this port, arrived at Vineyard Haven 12th.

Schr Gem, for this port, sailed from Providence 12th.
Schr Narcissus and Maggie, hence, at Richmond 13th.

CANAL COMMERCE.

ARRIVALS.
Boats Lillie Lemen and Park Agnew, to Hampshire & Baltimore Coal Co; boats U C Hamilton, H Deland, G A Pearce and A J Clark, to American Coal Co; boats A G Bradt, Geo H Bradt and City of Hamburg, to Maryland Coal Co; boats G L Conter and J H Korns, to New Central Co.

DEPARTURES.
Boats Lillie Lemen, A H Bradt, H Deland, G S Conter, Moses Whitson, M McNally, Dennis Murphy and U C Hamilton, for Cumberland.

MARRIED.
On Wednesday, the 12th inst., at the residence of the bride's father, Wm. R. Howard, Esq., by Rev. Mr. Busey, HAMILTON C. CROMWELL, of Baltimore, Md., to ELLA F. HOWARD of this city.

DIED.
June 14th, ROBERT W. CROOK, infant son of Robert and Mary E. Crook. The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Sunday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, from its parents' residence, No. 249 Princess st.

FANCY GOODS AND NOTIONS.<